

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 10675 01 OF 02 271645Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
IO-13 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 /078 W
-----100267 271702Z /46

O R 271633Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9362
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10675

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV EEC WB GW US UK FR
SUBJECT: BERLIN AND DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT

REFS: (A) BONN 10645; (B) BONN 8608

BEGIN SUMMARY. LACKING BACKGROUND ON THE DECISION OF
THE BERLIN MISSIONS, AS REFLECTED IN BK (77) 13, TO
POSTPONE APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF THE
COUNCIL ACT ON DIRECT ELECTIONS, THE EMBASSY IS UNABLE
TO ANSWER FRG INQUIRIES ON THIS SCORE. ACTION
REQUESTED: URGENT COMMENTS FROM USBER FOR OUR BACKGROUND
USE, IN THE EVENT THE FRG REQUESTS CONSIDERATION
OF THE ISSUE IN THE BONN GROUP. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 BONN 10675 01 OF 02 271645Z

1. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS ADVISED US INFORMALLY THAT THE
FRG MAY NEED TO RAISE URGENTLY IN THE BONN GROUP THE
QUESTION OF EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF THE EC COUNCIL ACT
ON DIRECT ELECTIONS. AS REPORTED REF (A), THE FRG,
HAVING OBTAINED THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION, NOW HOPES TO
MOVE AHEAD PROMPTLY IN NOTIFYING THE COUNCIL OF FRG
RATIFICATION. IT MAY FEEL COMPELLED TO DELAY, HOWEVER,

FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE STATUS OF EXTENSION OF THE ACT
TO BERLIN.

2. DUISBERG OF THE FONOFF LEGAL DEPARTMENT CALLED THE
ATTENTION OF THE US BONN GROUP REP TO A RECENT BK/L
ISSUED BY THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA WHICH STATED THAT THE
AK WOULD NOT APPROVE EXTENSION OF THE COUNCIL ACT TO
BERLIN UNTIL ALL THREE PIECES OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION
HAD BEEN ENACTED. HE THOUGHT THE FRG MIGHT CONSIDER
IT NECESSARY TO ASK WHETHER THIS AK DECISION MIGHT BE
RECONSIDERED, IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY WHICH THE FRG
ATTACHED TO COMPLETING THE RATIFICATION
PROCEDURES. US REP STATED THAT HE HAD NOT HEARD OF
THE BK/L BUT UNDERTOOK TO LOOK INTO THE RATIONALE
BEHIND IT, TO PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLY EARLY BONN GROUP
DISCUSSION.

3. ON CHECKING, WE HAVE FOUND BK/L(77)13 DATED
18 MAY 77 WHICH REACHED THE EMBASSY ROUTINELY. THE
BK/L REFERS TO THE SUBMISSION TO THE AK BY THE SENAT OF
THE DECISION AND ACT BY THE EC COUNCIL ON DIRECT
ELECTIONS, WITH A VIEW TO ITS EXTENSION TO BERLIN; NOTES
THAT THE DECISION AND ACT ARE THE SUBJECT OF A DRAFT
FEDERAL RATIFICATION LAW WHICH HAS BEEN PUBLISHED
TOGETHER WITH DRAFT FEDERAL LAWS ON ELECTIONS AND ON
THE LEGAL STATUS OF MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT;
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PAGE 03 BONN 10675 01 OF 02 271645Z

AND EXPRESSES THE VIEW OF THE AK THAT CONSIDERATION OF
THE EXTENSION OF THE DECISION AND ACT "SHOULD BE
POSTPONED UNTIL ALL THREE FEDERAL LAWS HAVE BEEN
ENACTED."

4. IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE BONN GROUP DISCUSSIONS,
THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BACKGROUND ON THE
RATIONALE FOR THE AK DECISION TO DEFER ACTION ON THE
EXTENSION OF THE COUNCIL ACT TO BERLIN. IN VIEW OF THE
EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS IN THE BONN GROUP AND
AT HIGH LEVELS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS

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PAGE 01 BONN 10675 02 OF 02 271645Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 10675

CONCERNING THE EXTENSION OF THIS ACT TO BERLIN, WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT THE AK DECISION TO DELAY ITS APPROVAL MAY HAVE GIVEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PAUSE FOR THOUGHT. IT WOULD NOT FEEL ABLE TO COMPLETE THE RATIFICATION PROCEDURES IF IT THOUGHT THERE WAS ANY DOUBT ABOUT APPLICABILITY TO BERLIN.

5. WE ASSUME THAT THE AK DECISION WAS BASED IN PART ON THE FACT THAT, WHEN THE BK/L WAS ISSUED, THE FRG ITSELF WAS STILL EXPECTING THAT ALL THREE PIECES OF LEGISLATION WOULD MOVE THROUGH THE PARLIAMENT AS A PACKAGE (REF B). NOW THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO SPLIT UP THE PACKAGE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN EARLY RATIFICATION OF THE COUNCIL ACT, WITHOUT WAITING FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE DEBATE OVER HOW THE ELECTIONS ARE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE FRG, THIS MIGHT PROVIDE
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PAGE 02 BONN 10675 02 OF 02 271645Z

A BASIS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE BK/L.

6. OUR PRESENT VIEW IS THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT THE RATIFICATION LAW HAS BEEN PASSED, TO GIVE PROMPT AGREEMENT TO EXTENSION OF THE

COUNCIL ACT TO BERLIN. THE FRG DECLARATION ATTACHED TO THE COUNCIL ACT CONTAINS THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM BERLIN WHICH WERE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT IN THE BONN GROUP AND APPROVED BY CAPITALS, AND WE ARE AWARE OF NO NEED TO DELAY EXTENSION OF THE ACT ITSELF. IT COULD, OF COURSE, BE NECESSARY TO EXPRESS ADDITIONAL ALLIED RESERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TAKEOVER IN BERLIN OF THE ELECTION LAW NEXT FALL, BUT THAT WOULD NOT SEEM TO NECESSITATE DELAY WITH REGARD TO THE ACT ITSELF. BEFORE EXPRESSING THESE VIEWS IN THE BONN GROUP, HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE USBER'S COMMENTS AS TO WHETHER THERE ARE OTHER FACTORS WE MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED WHICH WENT INTO THE AK DECISION REFLECTED IN BK/L (77) 13.

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